

Imports of NZ lamb cut meat prices

By
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A MELBOURNE butcher is importing lamb from New Zealand which, he says, sells for less than local lamb.

The butcher, Mr Norman Oliver, owns 13 suburban shops, which trade under the name, N. C. Oliver Meat Emporium.

Mr Oliver said yesterday that 16,000 lb. of lamb was coming in each week by air.

A further 90,000 lb. was being shipped in every five weeks, he said.

Mr Oliver said the imported lamb was better quality than the drought-affected local lamb.

The lamb was first

imported six weeks ago.

Mr Oliver's prices were compared with those of six other butchers — in Highett, McKinnon, Caulfield, Broadmeadows, Camberwell and Malvern — for three cuts of meat.

Comparison of prices

Mr Oliver's lamb chops cost 39c to 45c a lb., compared with prices ranging from 40c to 60c a lb.

His barbecue chops cost 35c a lb., compared with 39c to 45c a lb.

Mr Oliver's legs of lamb cost 39c to 40c a

lb., compared with 42c to 50c a lb.

A meat - processing firm has chartered the Clara Clausen to bring cattle, sheep and lambs from Tasmania to Victoria during the next few months.

It is estimated that 600 cattle and 3000 sheep and lambs will come over on each run, an official of the firm, Thos. Borthwick & Son, said yesterday.

The first shipment would be loaded in Launceston at the week-end, and was expected at Melbourne's Appleton Docks on Wednesday or Thursday.



↑ COBURG butcher's shop manager Mr Stan Daw holds a tray of New Zealand lamb chops selling at 39c a lb. Similar local meat is 49c a lb.